

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 13 through 20 are newly added with this amendment.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of December 29, 2004.

Information Disclosure Statement(s)

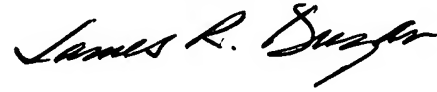
Applicants note the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement herein on December 28, 2001 and note that a copy of the PTO-1449 was not returned with the outstanding Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the information cited on the PTO-1449 (which is the same as that of record to that date in the parent application hereto) be made of record herein.

Double Patenting Rejection Based on U.S. Patents 5,959,347, 6,337,511 and 6,316,823

Claims 1 through 12 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 14 of U.S. Patent 5,959,347. Claims 1 through 12 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 12 of U.S. Patent 6,337,511. Claims 1 through 12 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 12 of U.S. Patent 6,316,823. In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicants elect to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing terminal disclaimers to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicants' filing of the terminal disclaimers should not be construed as acquiescence of the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Attached is the terminal disclaimers and accompanying fee.

Applicants submit that claims 1 through 20 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art.
Applicants request the allowance of claims 1 through 20 and the case passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Duzan
Registration No. 28,393
Attorney for Applicant(s)
TRASKBRITT
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

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